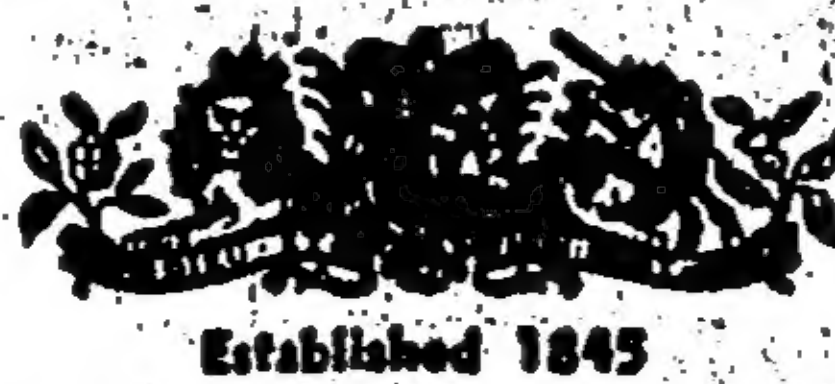


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COMMENT OF THE DAY

NATO Unity

IT is generally accepted that the current meeting of the NATO Council in Paris is one of the most vital to be held since the creation of the North Atlantic alliance. It provides the opportunity, not only for a thorough reappraisal of political developments in Eastern Europe and the Middle East, but for patching up past differences caused by the Suez Canal crisis between America and her principal European allies.

There has never been cause to believe that the Canal affair would permanently damage Anglo-French-US relations, and the way to their restoration was immediately opened when Britain and France unhesitatingly agreed to honour the United Nations directives and withdraw their forces from Egypt. It is thus fair to anticipate that before the NATO Council meeting ends there will be a substantial realignment of views between all the members of the alliance, and that past misunderstandings will be forgiven and forgotten.

Mr. Foster Dulles struck the required note when he referred to the need for common policies, though it is advisable to recognise that these may not readily materialise. It is noticeable, for example, that while Britain and France believe first attention should be given to the potentially explosive situation in the Middle East, America is inclined to place more importance on events in Eastern Europe. France is also desiring NATO backing for her policy in Algeria, and on this question Mr. Dulles is displaying some hesitancy.

There are indications, however, that the Council generally recognises the urgent need for political co-operation and that more emphasis is likely to be placed on this than on that of economic co-operation, originally envisaged when the organisation set up its committee of "Three Wise Men" earlier this year. The necessity for integrated political policies has been underlined by the Suez crisis which so unhappily and severely strained the alliance.

The essentiality of NATO as a defensive alliance cannot seriously be disputed, but it needs to be strengthened politically, economically and militarily if it is to be effective. This is the challenge which the Council of Ministers must now meet and resolve.

HUNGARY STRIKE-BOUND

ALL BUT TWO TOWNS OUT PEOPLE IGNORE RADIO PLEAS

By RONALD FARQUHAR

Budapest, Dec. 11.

Hungary went on strike today in defiance of their Russian-backed government and according to reports reaching here tonight the work stoppage has been effective in all but two of the principal towns.

Blue uniformed Hungarian police fired shots in the air near a strategic cross roads in Budapest as crowds of strikers pressed round Soviet tanks and armoured cars poised ready for action.

Other bursts of firing were heard elsewhere in the capital but there have been no reports of violence.

Soviet tanks and armoured cars are patrolling the streets but have not attempted to disperse the crowds often numbering several hundreds which gather at the intersections.

POLICE PRESSURE

The two no strike towns are Salgotarjan (population about 40,000) a mining centre in northern Hungary near the Czech border, 80 were reported killed in a clash with Police there last Saturday and Zalaegerszeg (population about 35,000) in the south-west near the Yugoslav frontier.

Usually well-informed sources said intensified Police activity in both towns was a major reason for persuading the workers to stay at their jobs.

But elsewhere the strike went on despite renewed Government radio appeals.

BUDAPEST OUT

One Budapest radio broadcast claimed that the Citizens' Guard was working as usual despite "provocative" attempts to halt production but reporters who drove up to the factory said they saw no signs of any work going on inside.

Meanwhile at six p.m. martial law was proclaimed on Sunday after the dissolution of the

STRIKE COSTS £10 MILLION

Radio Budapest said the strike in Hungary was costing about £10 million a day.

There were reports that the Hungarian regime was trying to enlist workers—especially railwaymen—in other satellite countries to break the strike.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions broadcast an appeal to the satellite workers to reject attempts to use them against the Hungarian strikers.—United Press.

'Britain Ready To Meet Egypt'

Paris, Dec. 11. Britain has told the United States it is prepared to start direct talks with Egypt on a settlement of the Suez Canal conflict, official sources said today.

But Britain wants a US assurance of full backing of her insistence that the canal be cleared and opened without delay.

The British view was communicated to the US Secretary of State Mr. John Foster Dulles by the Foreign Secretary Mr. Selwyn Lloyd and further talks were expected to be held while both are in Paris.

Through UN

Direct talks with Egypt would be arranged through the United Nations Secretary-General Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld since the preliminary moves have been satisfactorily completed, the sources said.

All going well, the talks could be arranged later this month or early in January, probably in New York or alternatively in Geneva.

They would be at Foreign Minister level or perhaps lower than that to begin with, but not at top level.

Six Principles

Basics of such talks would be the six principles agreed on at the Anglo-French-Egyptian discussions in New York last October.

It is not known whether France will also participate in the talks.

There were indications that the United States would exert its influence to bring about an early opening of the blocked Suez Canal.—United Press.

FROGS GO TO WAR

Over A Female

Penang, Dec. 11.

Villagers at Langgar in Kedah state, today watched a "battle" involving more than 1,000 frogs. Hundreds were killed and the "battlefield" was littered with dead and wounded. The "battle" began when a bull of a land species invaded the territory of a "water king" to seek a mate. The water frogs immediately rallied and a pitched battle began in and around the pond inhabited by the water frogs as the water "beauty" sought by the land bull swam off to her "king" for protection.

'Captives' Taken

Deadly leapt at each other's throats in a life and death struggle which lasted for over two hours. The deep death croaks of the frogs boomed out over a wide area. Villagers said that the land frogs gradually gained the upper hand, the water "kings" army retreating into the pond as the land "forces" swam away with protecting female water frogs as captives.—Reuter.

Lithuania Reports Anti-Red Trouble

Moscow, Dec. 11.

The top-ranking Communist in Lithuania has charged that "reactionary elements" have sought to "stir up the Lithuanians against the Russians". It was disclosed in Moscow today.

In a speech to the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet, Mr. Smetekus, the First Secretary of the Party in Lithuania, indicated that a purge might be necessary against students "who give in to the lies" circulated by class enemies" and against "intellectuals who attack the ideological principles and the role of the party in science and in the arts."

Smetekus said: "Under the influence of the events in Hungary, reactionary elements in Lithuania have sought to use disorder and to sow suspicion against the Communist Party and the Government, to idealise the bourgeois period, to win over the young people and to stir up the Lithuanians against the Russians."

He said the "reactionaries" had been "stimulated" by the Hungarian events and that some of them agitated under the guise of criticism, others in the name of a pseudo-democracy and still others quite openly.

Smetekus said: "We cannot remain passive observers while certain persons brutally distort the truth, idealise the bourgeois period and thus implant outmoded opinions, especially among young people who did not know the bourgeois regime."

Praising Lithuanian friendship with "the great Russian people", Smetekus said: "We shall never allow anyone to violate that friendship or to stir up the Lithuanian people against the other fraternal peoples."

He said that at present "certain representatives of science and culture profess opinions which have nothing in common with Marxist conceptions, and in the guise of criticism, seek to attack the ideological positions of Socialist realism".—France-Press.

Train Mined: 8 Die

Algiers, Dec. 11.

The Mediterranean to Algeria express was derailed by a rebel mine on the fringes of the Sahara Desert today. Eight passengers were killed and six injured.

The train was heading south when it ran on to a mine 12 miles north of Colomb-Bechar, a mining centre to the Moroccan frontier, 300 miles southwest of Algiers.—United Press.

Independence

London, Dec. 11.

The House of Commons tonight approved without voting a bill to grant independence within the Commonwealth to the Gold Coast, on March 6, 1957.—Reuter.

ELECTION UPSET UNLIKELY

London, Dec. 11.

On the eve of his talks with the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Lennox-Boyd, Singapore's Chief Minister, Mr. Lim Yew Hock, said at a press conference that he had precipitated a showdown with left-wing elements in Singapore to determine how extensively they had infiltrated schools and trade unions.

"If I had not tried out their strength, I would have hesitated to come here and ask for complete internal self-government," he said.

Now, Mr. Lim said, there was no danger that if he got what he wanted and there was a general election that the new Government would be dominated by "Communist or back-seat drivers."

This was an allusion to the left-wing People's Action Party, whose extreme pro-Communist wing Lim Yew Hock hit by arresting Assemblyman, Lim Chin Siong, its leading member.

Mr. Lim said the Suez events have not had much impact yet on Singapore. The impact would be felt more when prices went up.

Too Preoccupied

Asked his opinions of the events in Suez, he said: "I have not even given thought to it."

He indicated that he would ask for complete internal self-government, leaving defence and foreign affairs, but not foreign trade and cultural relations, in British hands.

He intended to ask as well for a new law giving Singapore citizenship to long residents, who are mostly of Chinese origin.

He suggested that these China-born people of an older generation were often more loyal to Singapore than locally born youngsters, who had been indoctrinated with an uncritical admiration for Peking in the Chinese language schools.

He did not, however, think it unnatural for people of Chinese origin to take a "natural pride in China as a growing power".—France-Press.

How They'd Vote

Only 51 per cent of those questioned in the current poll were satisfied with Sir Anthony as Prime Minister compared with 60 1/2 per cent in the previous poll.

Voters in the current poll were also asked: "If a general election were held immediately, for which party would you vote?"

In the current poll 45 1/2 per cent said they would vote Tory, compared with 48 per cent in a November poll when the same question was asked.

The Socialist share rose from 46 to 47 1/2 per cent. The current poll also showed that 46 1/2 per cent of those questioned were dissatisfied with the Government's conduct of affairs compared to 38 per cent in November. Those who said they were satisfied with the Government's conduct of affairs dropped from 53 per cent in November to 45 per cent in the current poll.

US Relations

And while 62 1/2 per cent felt that the United States attitude to Britain was unreasonable, 75 1/2 per cent said they thought Anglo-American relations would soon be restored.

Twenty-three per cent said the United States attitude to Britain was reasonable, but only 8 1/2 per cent felt Anglo-American relations had been permanently damaged.—London Express Service.

Terrorist Killed In Malaya

Ipoh, Dec. 11.

A patrol from the 22nd Special Air Service Regiment killed one of a gang of 20 Communist guerrillas they contacted yesterday. An Army spokesman said.

He said the engagement took place in deep jungle near the Central Malayan town of Bungei.

Damage To Soviet Consulate

Poland Will Pay Up

Warsaw, Dec. 11.

Poland will pay for damage caused to the Soviet consulate in Stettin last night when rioters broke windows in a bid to enter the premises. It was announced today.

The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that it had apologized for the incident and has assured the Soviet Ambassador, Mr. O. Ponomarev, that those responsible would be punished.

Official sources said last night's trouble began after a militiaman arrested a drunk. Others released the prisoner and attacked the riot lamen.

Reports reaching here from Stettin tonight said that some of the big crowd which gathered near the Soviet Consulate last night were students and workers trying to carry out a planned protest against Soviet armed intervention in Hungary.

But the students and workers who helped to disperse the crowd last night were members of the "Workers Militia" whose duty it is to halt any "provocative" demonstrations—especially anti-Russian ones—before they get out of hand, informed observers said.—Reuter.

Lawyers' Strike

Rome, Dec. 11.

The Arab Bar Association called today a strike of all Arab lawyers on December 17 in protest against "the Iraqi Government's violation of the rights and freedom of the Iraqi people."

It said the strike would also protest against "the shedding of the blood of the Iraqi people and the arrest of the Secretary-General of the Arab Bar Association Hussein Gamil and other prominent Iraqi lawyers".—Reuter.

Phones Cut Off

Rome, Dec. 11.

Italy was cut off from telephonic and telegraphic communication with the outside world tonight by a strike of communications workers.—Reuter.

ALARM CAUSES PANIC

Brussels, Dec. 11.

Panic hit north-west Brussels today when an air-raid siren short circuited and sounded the alert.

By coincidence an aircraft from Elbroek airfield was over that part of the city at the same time.

Dozens of people rushed into the streets. Others dived into their cellars. Cars and trams stopped in mid-street and jittery drivers ran for cover. Radio stations and newspapers were inundated with telephone calls from anxious citizens asking "have the Russians come?"

Police went sent through the streets to reassure anxious citizens that it was only an accident.—United Press.



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- 1 bot. Angostura Bitter (small)

Hamper No. 3 (6 bottles) H.K.\$105.00

- 1 bot. Red Label or White Horse Scotch Whisky
- 1 bot. Krug Champagne
- 1 bot. Cordon's Gin
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PUPPET'S PROPHECY

Vienna, Dec. 11.

The Soviet puppet in Hungary, Janos Kadar, told a workers delegation in Budapest today that "the counter-revolution will be broken up probably by the end of next week," Budapest radio said tonight.

He was said to have told the workers delegation of several factories of the Budapest suburb, Pesterz Sebét, that his government had had no time yet to work out a "positive government programme."

As soon as the counter-revolution was smashed, which "will probably be by the end of next week," the Government will announce its "positive programme" to the public, the radio reported him as saying.

CHIEF AIMS

Among the chief aims of the new government programme would be the country's independence and further democratisation, he said, according to Budapest radio.

Non-party men would be admitted to the government later, provided they accepted the government programme, he said.

"Beyond this, the Government will not permit any political activity."

REFUGEES LOSS

Budapest radio later reported that the Hungarian Government issued a decree today confiscating all the property and assets of citizens who had left the country since October 23.

Citizens who return to Hungary by March 31, 1957, would have their property returned, the radio said. It did not mention whether these people would also get back their jobs.—Reuter.

Austria's UN Move

New York, Dec. 11.

Austria tabled a draft resolution in the UN Assembly tonight to authorize Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld to undertake "with all his energy and all the means at his disposal to achieve a comprehensive solution of the Hungarian problems based on the principles of the charter."

The resolution would authorize Mr. Hammarskjöld to negotiate with member states as it seemed appropriate and report to the Assembly on the results. "If possible before the end of the first part of its session."

(The Assembly is due to adjourn on December 21 or 22 for the Christmas recess, resuming on January 2 or 3.)

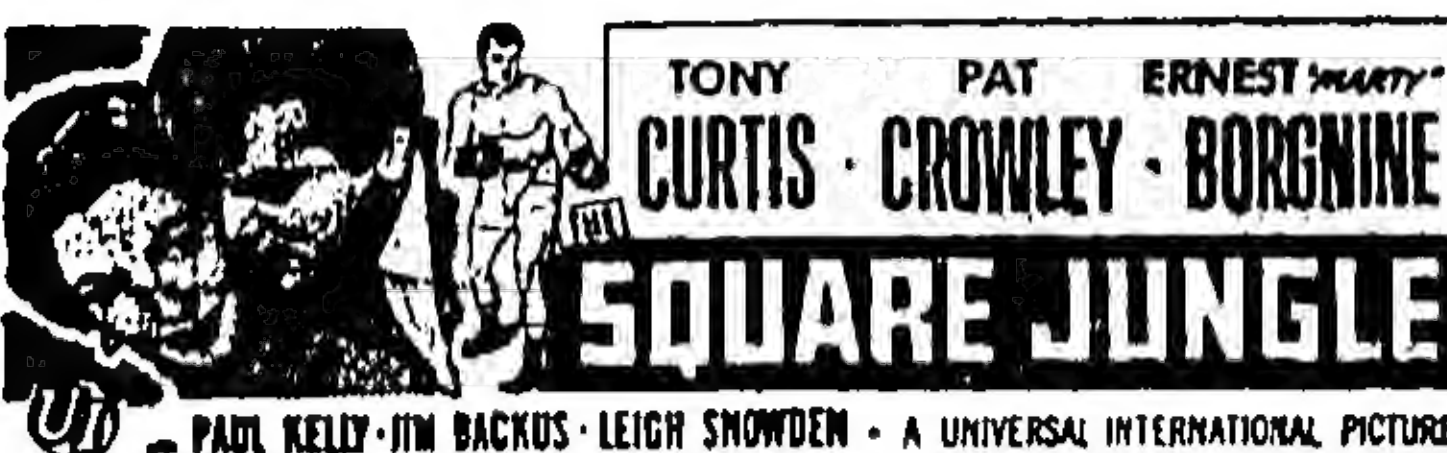
If Franz Matsch, Austrian permanent representative, said Austria felt the resolution was more general in character than other aid envisaged a new approach to a solution of this complex problem.—Reuter.

KING'S PRINCESS

TO-DAY ONLY



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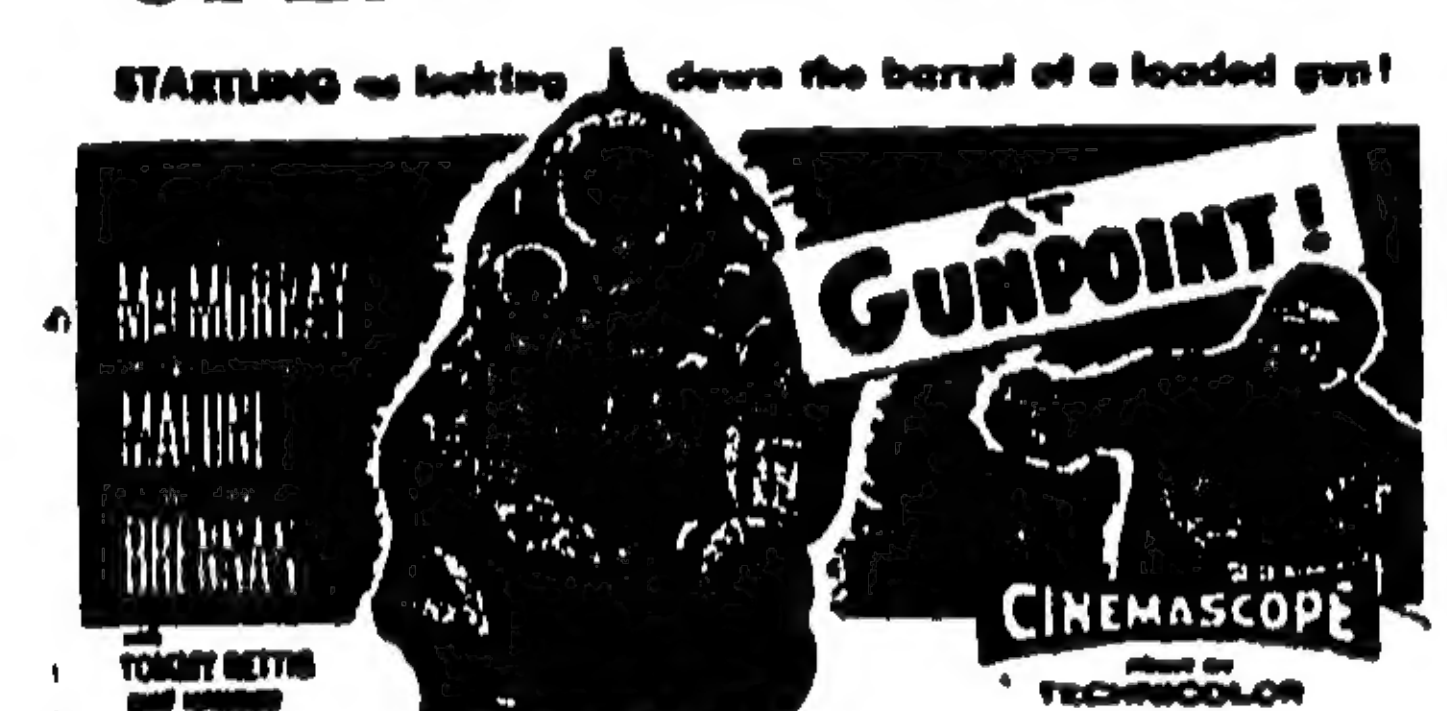
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OPENS TO-MORROW

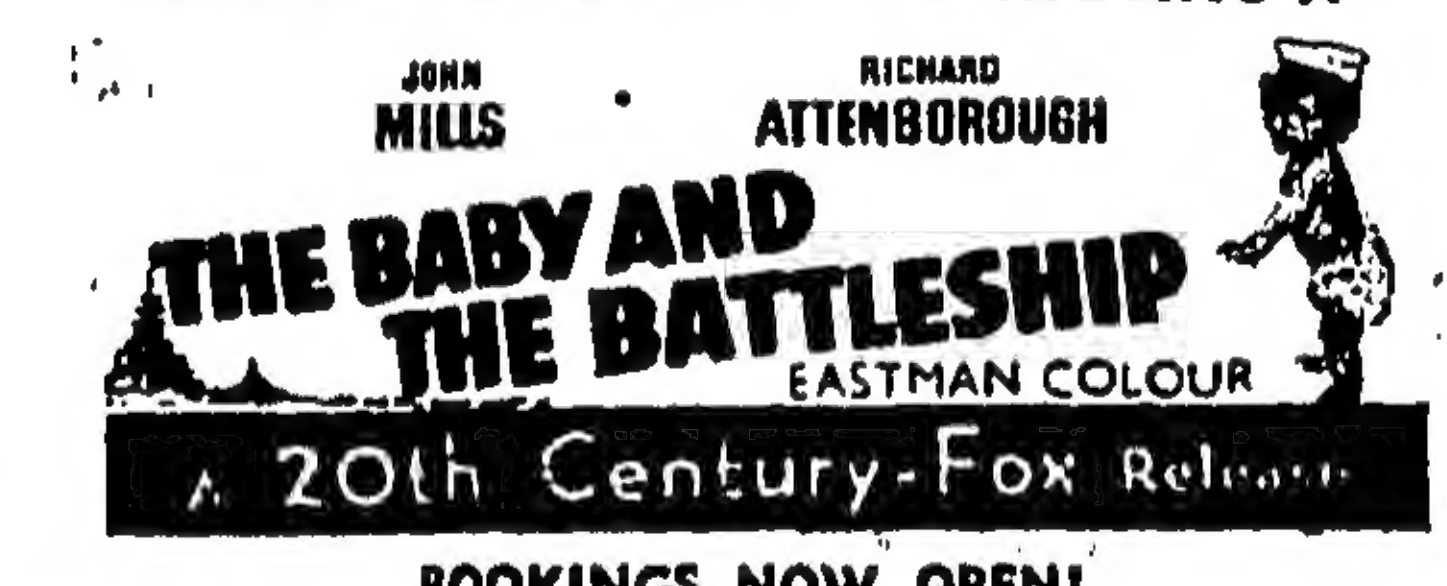


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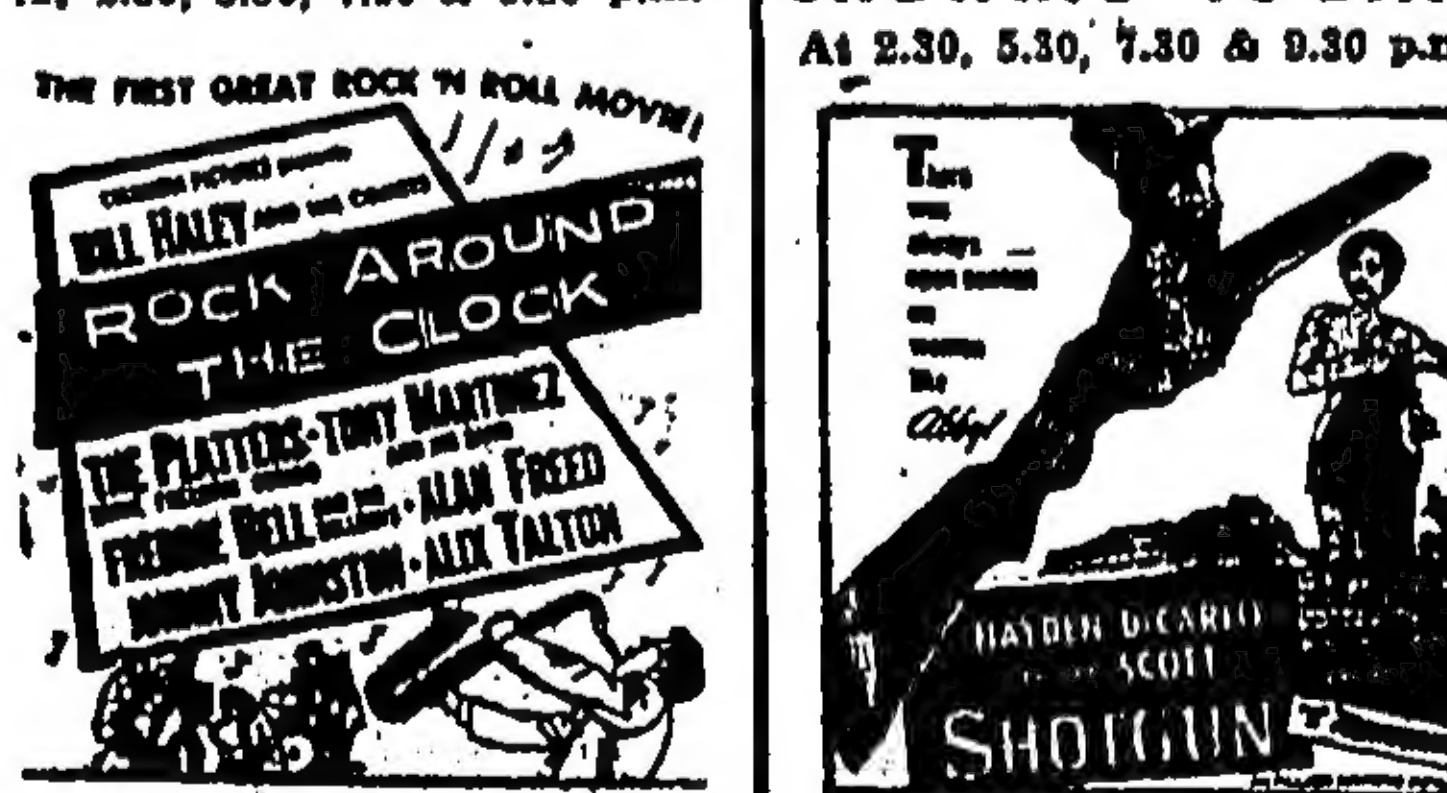


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"THE BIRDS AND THE BEES"

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Vital Ike-Nehru Talks OUTCOME MIGHT AFFECT WORLD FOR MANY YEARS

Washington, Dec. 11.
Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru arrived in Washington on Sunday for talks with President Eisenhower which are expected to have a major impact on world events in the months and years to come.

Nehru comes to Washington at a time when the United States is placing greater emphasis than ever on cultivating cordial relations with the Asian-African bloc of newly independent nations.

His visit is auspiciously timed, by coincidence, in that it follows two major developments which have drawn New Delhi and Washington closer. These are:

- ★ 1. US condemnation of the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt, which raised American prestige to a new high throughout the Middle and Far East and
- ★ 2. India's disillusionment with the Soviet Union as a result of the Kremlin's brutal repression in Hungary.

No Agenda

The Eisenhower-Nehru conversations are expected to range the gamut of human affairs. There will be no formal agenda since both men are believers in the value of frank and informal personal exchanges.

Among the subjects which it is expected they will discuss are: Events in the Soviet Union and the satellites, the aims and direction of China, developments in the turbulent Middle East and the possibility of disarmament and banning of nuclear tests.

Nobody expects the two to agree in their assessment of developments in the Soviet Union, although it is expected that they will be closer together on this score than they would have been several months ago.

Eisenhower sees the Hungarian tragedy as evidence that Soviet communism has not changed its brutal nature. Nehru undoubtedly will cite Poland as an example of the possibility of gradual change.

Urge To Relax

Nehru is expected to urge the US to relax in its attitude toward China. Whether he had any new arguments with which he hopes to impress Eisenhower is not known here yet. The Indian leader is, however, known to believe that relaxation of the trade embargo would be a step toward achieving a measure of understanding between Peking and Washington. He also believes China should be given a seat in the UN.

While Eisenhower cannot agree at this time to give ground on these issues, it is predicted in diplomatic quarters here that once China has freed the remaining Americans it holds and given a pledge not to use force against Formosa, it would be possible to consider some softening of the American attitude.

Refusal

As regards the Middle East, Eisenhower is expected to urge Nehru to use his influence on President Gamal Abdel Nasser to get the Egyptian leader to accept a Suez settlement which will place the major users of the strategic waterway.

It is believed that Eisenhower's refusal to concede the British and French action places him in a strong position to argue with Nehru that Nasser should show a more conciliatory spirit on resolution of the Canal—United Press.

India Setting Up A Press Council

New Delhi, Dec. 11.
The Council of States — the Upper House of Parliament — today approved a bill to set up a press council in India designed to safeguard the liberty of the press and improve journalistic ethics.

An amendment asking the bill to specify that a mainly journalistic body would put any embarrassing question to a colleague about sources of information.

The bill will now go to the House of the People—the Lower House. If passed, it will require the President's signature to become law.

ETHICS

Under the bill the press council will not only safeguard the liberty of the press and maintain the standards of journalistic ethics, but will also keep under review developments tending towards monopoly and concentration of control.

It will also promote research and provide common services for the press.

The council will consist of a chairman and 25 other members, including 13 working journalists, six proprietors or business managers of newspapers and three Members of Parliament.—Reuter.

Oil Pipeline Inspection Requested

Damascus, Dec. 11.
The Iraq Petroleum Company has asked the Syrian Government to arrange for an early inspection of oil pipelines and pumping stations blown up shortly after the armed action against Egypt, a reliable source stated here tonight.

The request said the inspection was necessary in order to assess the damage and speed up repair work.

Government officials earlier made statements saying that the flow of oil would not be started up again until Anglo-French forces were withdrawn from Egypt.

Meanwhile in Baghdad Dr. Nadim el Pachachi, Iraq's Economics Minister, said today that Britain had never consulted Iraq about the possibility of building an oil pipeline through Turkey to the Mediterranean.

He said Iraq was prepared to consider such a project when it was consulted, in the light of the economic and political circumstances of the time.

Dr. Pachachi was replying to a statement by Mr. Aubrey Jones, the British Minister of Fuel, who told Parliament this week that a survey of a possible route for a pipeline from Iraq via Turkey had been undertaken.

This would avoid Syria where three key pumping stations have recently been put out of action.—Reuter.

Britain's Newest Giraffe



Terry, the new baby giraffe of London Zoo, is pictured with his mother. The baby was named Terry after Terry Spinks, British heavyweight boxer and Olympic Gold Medalist.—Express Photo.

Agitation Over Ceding Burma Villages

By MAX MCCRATH

Rangoon, Dec. 11.
University students belonging to the minority Kachin race who had been agitating over the past weeks against the proposed handing over to China of three villages in the Kachin State, North Burma, have appealed to the Chinese Prime Minister, Mr. Chou En-lai to forgo claims to these villages.

In an open letter addressed to Mr. Chou and released to the press, the Kachin students said the proposal to cede villages to China was "as good as finished."

(According to a tentative proposal, three villages of Hpa-maw, Gawlam and Kangsang, 90 miles north of Myittha, capital of Kachin State will be ceded to China.)

In their statement of "grievances" set out in the letter the students said an "alarming situation" was developing in the areas concerned.

The village tracts cover 500 miles with a population of over 5,000.

Resistance

The students' letter stated the "report of the proposal (to transfer villages to China) has created resistance movements among the Kachin people and has led to active protests across the country. Moreover, along with widespread distress and dissatisfaction, is looming up a danger of developing racial prejudice which has been nurtured by former colonialists with all injustice, bitterness and strife that it entails."

The authors of the letter who signed themselves as chairman and secretary of the "Kachin Students Hpa-maw Action Committee" said the areas in question had been administered for

the past 50 years by Kachin chieftains "owing allegiance to none."

The areas had been an integral part of Burma when the country became independent, the writers state.

Deplorable

"Guided by our sympathy for our parents and brothers who have become victims of a deplorable situation and by our passionate love for our homeland, we cannot help but appeal to Your Excellency to let the disputed areas remain as they were eight years ago (when Burma became an independent republic)," the letter added.—Reuter.

Revolutionaries Warned

Havana, Dec. 11.

The Government of President Fulgencio Batista today gave the broken remnants of a revolutionary movement in Eastern Cuba 48 hours to surrender or face extinction.

The ultimatum became effective at noon and will end at noon on Thursday. It was announced in a proclamation issued at the town of Niquero, base of operations for the army's mop-up activities against the rebels.

The proclamation said that Army liaison aircraft equipped with loudspeakers will advise the rebels where to present themselves for the surrender.—United Press.

SUEZ SALVAGE OPERATIONS SPEEDED UP

London, Dec. 11.
The Admiralty announced today that since the beginning of clearing operations in Port Said harbour, three tugs, one floating crane, one floating dock and two hoppers have been refloated by British and French salvage teams.

A channel, 72 metres wide and 7.6 metres deep has been dredged into Port Said harbour as well as another channel inside the harbour of 54.8 metres wide and 11 metres deep. All except the largest ships can now go up the Suez Canal as far as El Cap, the Admiralty said.

The Admiralty also announced the Suez Canal tug Titan, repaired in the Canal company's shops, has begun operations again. The Admiralty said that eight French and British ships, specialised in the refloating of wrecks were now in the Red Sea, ready to go into service at Suez.

Temporary Bridge

The semi-official Middle East news agency said that Egyptian army engineers this morning completed the construction of a temporary bridge across the Suez Canal at El Kantara.

The Fordan bridge, which had been the main pathway across the Canal, was demolished during Anglo-French military operations.

The agency said that units of the Egyptian army engineering corps had already crossed the Canal to Sinai and begun repairing railroads and telephone lines destroyed by Israeli forces before their withdrawal from Sinai.

The French tug Abeille 26, the most powerful in Europe, left Brest today for the Suez Canal to take part in clearing operations.

Meanwhile it was learned that Egypt might seek action in the United Nations General Assembly to obtain compensation for alleged damage caused by the British and French in the Suez Canal area and by Israel in the Sinai Desert.

A meeting in New York of the Arab-African group of states today heard a statement by Dr. Mahmoud Fawzi, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, about the damage he said the Anglo-French occupation force had caused in the Canal area.

Preliminary

He also alleged that Israel had carried out a "scorched earth" policy in the Sinai Desert before withdrawing her forces.

Mr. Hashim Jawad of Iraq, Chairman of the 26-nation group, said after the meeting that Dr. Fawzi had made a preliminary statement with a view to further discussions in the group in a few days' time.

These discussions were aimed at deciding on the best procedure to be followed in the Assembly, he said.

He would not disclose what procedure was envisaged but the sources said the group might back an Egyptian demand for compensation from the British, French and Israeli governments.—France-Press & Reuter.

Refugees Try To Enter Switzerland

Paris, Dec. 11.
Switzerland refused entry today to 300 disappointed Hungarian refugees who broke out of a guarded French army camp near Besancon yesterday, French officials reported.

Men, women, and children, unhappy over conditions in the abandoned army camp, marched over 30 miles of cold, snowy roads to Morlaix in hopes of entering Switzerland.

They arrived at midnight and most took refuge in the Morlaix Town Hall while their representatives negotiated with Swiss authorities. They danced while they waited.

JOBS AWAIT

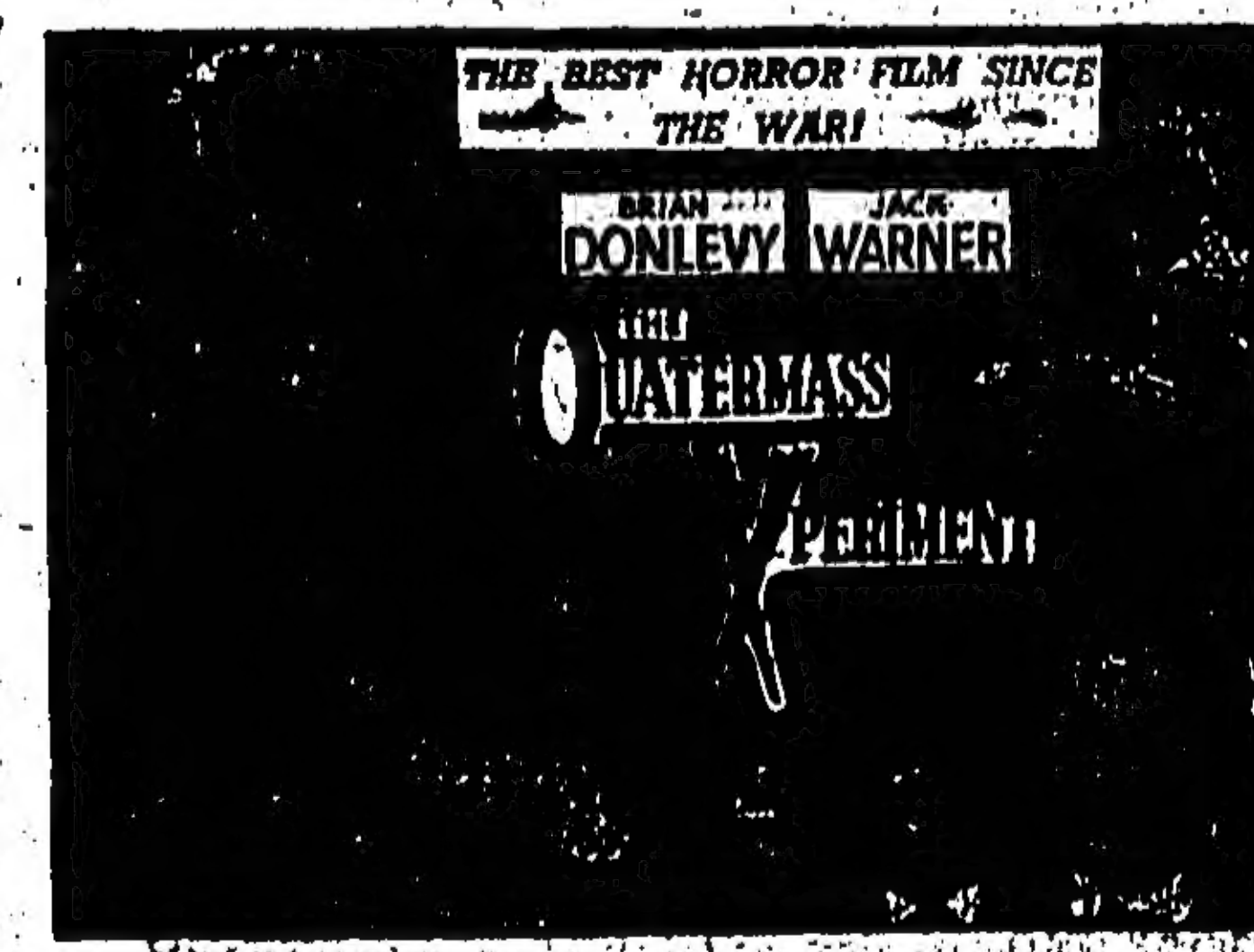
The Hungarians had hoped to ask the American Embassy in Geneva for asylum in the United States, but they learned they could not enter Switzerland, which has given refuge to thousands of their countrymen.

French authorities announced some 200 refugees would be taken back to the Valdunien Army camp and that others would go to nearby Montebellard, where factory jobs awaited them.

The refugees offered no explanation of their dissatisfaction but some persons believed they were unmoved because of shooting practice by French troops at a nearby gunnery field—a reminder of their grim days in Hungary.—United Press.

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★



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AIR CONDITIONED

TO-DAY

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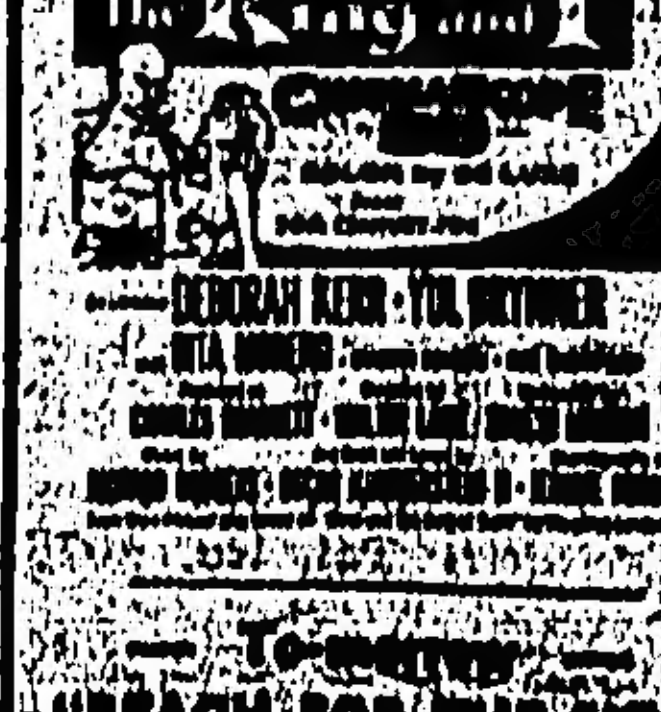
Nothing to equal the joyousness, the eye-filling scenes, the music and happiness of this Glorious Entertainment!



TO-MORROW
"RACE FOR THE CROWN"

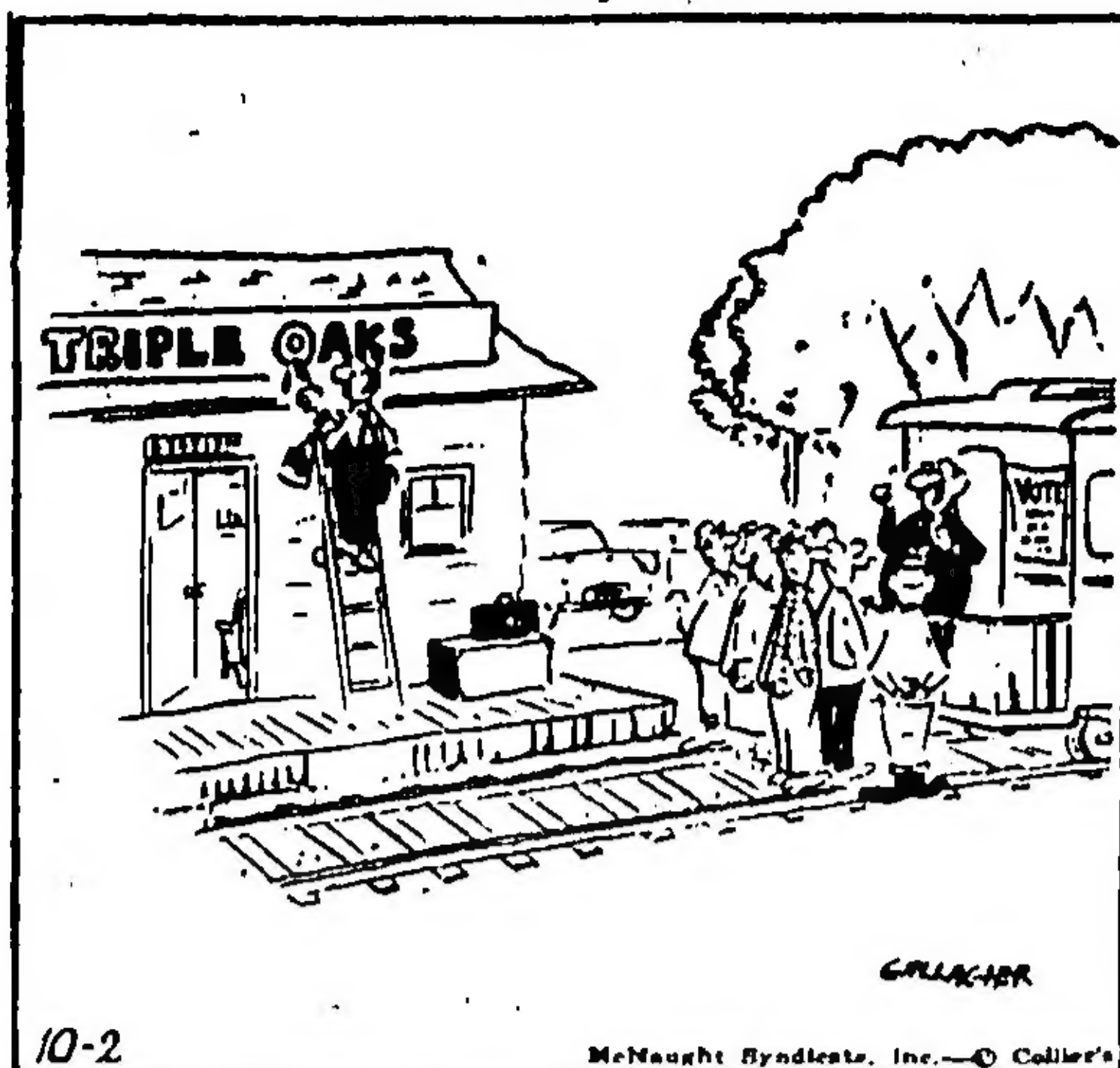
FINAL TO-DAY

At 2.15, 4.45, 7.10 & 9.40 P.M.



TO-MORROW
"RACE FOR THE CROWN"

This Funny World



"Yes, friends, my own dear mother was born right here in the little town of Triple Oaks!"

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

I DISAGREE with the idea, expressed again recently in a review, that a novelist must take his characters seriously. It is much more fun if he laughs at the whole thing off.

"Elspeth asked herself over and over again, did she truly love Ralph?" We are all used to that kind of question. It is only a matter of time before we are asked, "Elspeth, a boring little puppet, if ever there was one, asked herself over and over again the foolish question which can be of no interest to any intelligent adult, did she really love that tedious jackanapes Ralph. Who cares? Not the inquisitively stupid reader, I hope."

"The Cream of the Cabmen"

HERE are some more tributes to this anthology.

An unconventional masterpiece, pungent, factual, revealing. (Alan Ladd)

A mine of information for the student of cabmen's names. (Yehudi Menuhin)

Impartial, unimpaired, uninhibited. (New Zealand Times)

Here is no cheap sensationalism. (Hardware Argus and Messenger)

"Can be safely left about a house where there are children. (Singapore Sentinel)

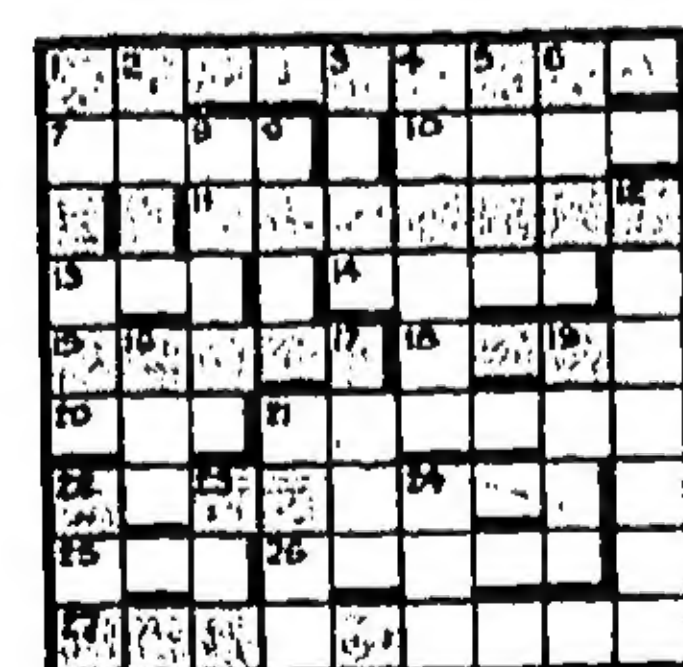
One down

SIR—I have been reading your column for 87 years, but this is the end. I thought you were an honest man, and self-respecting, until I read Mrs. Huxtable's letter about those Huxtable's cabinet. Such a letter, with its covert sneers at cabmen's names, should have been cast unread into the dustbin, where doubtless it would have contaminated old vegetables and other rubbish. That you, of all men, should have published this libellous outpouring of a jaundiced pig is incredible. Let us leave it at that.

The duel

"A CONDUCTOR," remarks a critic, "can convey a rebuke by a lift of the eye."

CROSSWORD



The shaded squares spell out a comment to gladden the heart of Miss Nancy Spain.

1. To the top of every tree promoted. (Gilbert)
2. Lord High Executioner had a little one. (4)
3. Admit you're in a label. (7)
4. Preserve holder. (3)
5. Potentate terminus. (1 Across)
6. Regarding. (6)
7. A sin makes a backward girl. (4)
8. Overt of my thumb. (3)
9. Dispute. (5)
10. Most of Loxor is followed by a family man's I.O.U.s. (8)
11. Rotten in London. (13)
12. Racecourse nuisance. (5)
13. Not sound. (6 Across)

Down

1. The prophet of a fiery chariot. (6)
2. Permit. (4)
3. Foreign one may emerge as a bad one. (5)
4. That potentate again... and he's graduated. (7)
5. A son of the North. (4)
6. Father of a dog's struggle. (8)
7. A brush with a dog's struggle. (8)
8. One spell of something banned. (6)
9. A female court may well be true. (7)
10. Magic one made a him. (8)
11. Turn of mind. (4)
12. Miss O'Donoghue. (4)
13. The most down-spirited in the world. (10)
14. There is a... (10)
15. A... (10)
16. A... (10)
17. A... (10)
18. A... (10)
19. A... (10)
20. A... (10)
21. A... (10)
22. A... (10)
23. A... (10)
24. A... (10)
25. A... (10)
26. A... (10)
27. A... (10)

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

BORN today, you have a strong nature which wants a thing its own way. You are not an impulse man, but you are a man of great deal of energy and are at times so moody that even your closest friends are not sure of what you intend. This is as you grow older, you will be controlled if you will only learn to stop, look around you and think before jumping to conclusions. Your judgment, upon mature consideration, is good. But your whims of fancy, when you act on impulse, can be disastrous.

You are ambitious and want to get ahead in the world. You have a magnetic personality and will make a host of friends. You enjoy being among people and probably will do best in some kind of a job which calls for your appearance before the public. Your particular talents would help you do well as a defence attorney, in politics—or on the stage. Be sure to make your decision early in life and then live it.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)—Take care of important matters during the daytime. When evening comes, relax and let the world go by.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 21-Jan. 19)—Treat any new schemes very carefully before committing yourself. Tired and true situations are the best.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 18)—There are full prospects for love and romance. Plan an evening of surprises for your loved one.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)—Mental activity is stimulated to such a degree that you must consider plans carefully before acting.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)—A busy day, either at home or in the office. Accomplish a great deal of personal importance to your future.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20)—Apply yourself to the immediate problem at hand. Don't permit yourself to be sidetracked. Stick to your major objective.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)—Save time by not worrying about the future. Just take care of today. There are important things to be done now.

CANCER (June 21-July 21)—You may find that there are necessary changes that must be made on the domestic front. Attend to them efficiently.

all your efforts toward the achievement of your goal. Your life may not always be a path of roses, but you can make it an easy one by your own actions. More than money, you can be master of your own life. You are also a loving and devoted. There is apt to be more than one love in your life, but you will have found the only one you will become constant and true. You are, at heart, home-loving and domestic.

Among those born on this date were: John Jay, statesman and jurist; William A. Vanderbil, financier; William Lloyd Garrison, abolitionist; Laura Hope Crews, actress; Arthur Brisbane, noted editor; Sarah B. Cooper, educator; Peter F. Collier, publisher; Lillian Nordica, singer; and Frank Sinatra, actor and singer.

To find what the stars have to say for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Birthday star be your daily guide.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 22)—Don't be misled by surface appearances. Go into the full details of a project before making any final decision.

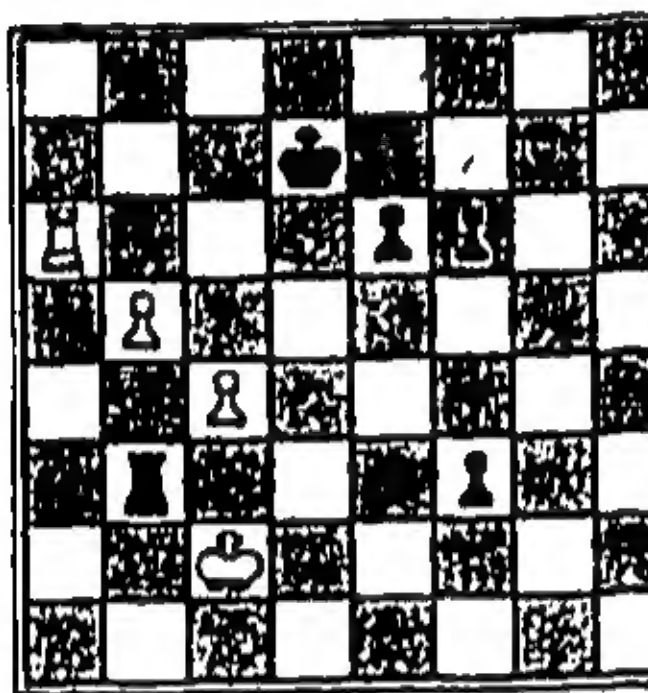
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—Promote your business affairs. Get full benefits from a highly profitable day. Exert full energies; use your initiative.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)—Financial matters involving another take the foreground. Make shopping plans and then follow them through.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)—Business affairs are active. There may be decisions to be made which involve the happiness of others.

CHESS

by LEONARD BARDEN



As sending from actual play; Black to move and win.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1 R-KKt2 (threat 2 Q-R2), BxR; 2 Q-R2, BxKt; 3 Q-KR2, N-Q1; 4 QxP; 5 Q-B1; 6 N-Q1; 7 Q-B1; 8 P-Q7; 9 Q-B1; 10 Q-B1; 11 Q-B1; 12 Q-B1; 13 Q-B1; 14 Q-B1; 15 Q-B1; 16 Q-B1; 17 Q-B1; 18 Q-B1; 19 Q-B1; 20 Q-B1; 21 Q-B1; 22 Q-B1; 23 Q-B1; 24 Q-B1; 25 Q-B1; 26 Q-B1; 27 Q-B1; 28 Q-B1; 29 Q-B1; 30 Q-B1; 31 Q-B1; 32 Q-B1; 33 Q-B1; 34 Q-B1; 35 Q-B1; 36 Q-B1; 37 Q-B1; 38 Q-B1; 39 Q-B1; 40 Q-B1; 41 Q-B1; 42 Q-B1; 43 Q-B1; 44 Q-B1; 45 Q-B1; 46 Q-B1; 47 Q-B1; 48 Q-B1; 49 Q-B1; 50 Q-B1; 51 Q-B1; 52 Q-B1; 53 Q-B1; 54 Q-B1; 55 Q-B1; 56 Q-B1; 57 Q-B1; 58 Q-B1; 59 Q-B1; 60 Q-B1; 61 Q-B1; 62 Q-B1; 63 Q-B1; 64 Q-B1; 65 Q-B1; 66 Q-B1; 67 Q-B1; 68 Q-B1; 69 Q-B1; 70 Q-B1; 71 Q-B1; 72 Q-B1; 73 Q-B1; 74 Q-B1; 75 Q-B1; 76 Q-B1; 77 Q-B1; 78 Q-B1; 79 Q-B1; 80 Q-B1; 81 Q-B1; 82 Q-B1; 83 Q-B1; 84 Q-B1; 85 Q-B1; 86 Q-B1; 87 Q-B1; 88 Q-B1; 89 Q-B1; 90 Q-B1; 91 Q-B1; 92 Q-B1; 93 Q-B1; 94 Q-B1; 95 Q-B1; 96 Q-B1; 97 Q-B1; 98 Q-B1; 99 Q-B1; 100 Q-B1; 101 Q-B1; 102 Q-B1; 103 Q-B1; 104 Q-B1; 105 Q-B1; 106 Q-B1; 107 Q-B1; 108 Q-B1; 109 Q-B1; 110 Q-B1; 111 Q-B1; 112 Q-B1; 113 Q-B1; 114 Q-B1; 115 Q-B1; 116 Q-B1; 117 Q-B1; 118 Q-B1; 119 Q-B1; 120 Q-B1; 121 Q-B1; 122 Q-B1; 123 Q-B1; 124 Q-B1; 125 Q-B1; 126 Q-B1; 127 Q-B1; 128 Q-B1; 129 Q-B1; 130 Q-B1; 131 Q-B1; 132 Q-B1; 133 Q-B1; 134 Q-B1; 135 Q-B1; 136 Q-B1; 137 Q-B1; 138 Q-B1; 139 Q-B1; 140 Q-B1; 141 Q-B1; 142 Q-B1; 143 Q-B1; 144 Q-B1; 145 Q-B1; 146 Q-B1; 147 Q-B1; 148 Q-B1; 149 Q-B1; 150 Q-B1; 151 Q-B1; 152 Q-B1; 153 Q-B1; 154 Q-B1; 155 Q-B1; 156 Q-B1; 157 Q-B1; 158 Q-B1; 159 Q-B1; 160 Q-B1; 161 Q-B1; 162 Q-B1; 163 Q-B1; 164 Q-B1; 165 Q-B1; 166 Q-B1; 167 Q-B1; 168 Q-B1; 169 Q-B1; 170 Q-B1; 171 Q-B1; 172 Q-B1; 173 Q-B1; 174 Q-B1; 175 Q-B1; 176 Q-B1; 177 Q-B1; 178 Q-B1; 179 Q-B1; 180 Q-B1; 181 Q-B1; 182 Q-B1; 183 Q-B1; 184 Q-B1; 185 Q-B1; 186 Q-B1; 187 Q-B1; 188 Q-B1; 189 Q-B1; 190 Q-B1; 191 Q-B1; 192 Q-B1; 193 Q-B1; 194 Q-B1; 195 Q-B1; 196 Q-B1; 197 Q-B1; 198 Q-B1; 199 Q-B1; 200 Q-B1; 201 Q-B1; 202 Q-B1; 203 Q-B1; 204 Q-B1; 205 Q-B1; 206 Q-B1; 207 Q-B1; 208 Q-B1; 209 Q-B1; 210 Q-B1; 211 Q-B1; 212 Q-B1; 213 Q-B1; 214 Q-B1; 215 Q-B1; 216 Q-B1; 217 Q-B1; 218 Q-B1; 219 Q-B1; 220 Q-B1; 221 Q-B1; 222 Q-B1; 223 Q-B1; 224 Q-B1; 225 Q-B1; 226 Q-B1; 227 Q-B1; 228 Q-B1; 229 Q-B1; 230 Q-B1; 231 Q-B1; 232 Q-B1; 233 Q-B1; 234 Q-B1; 235 Q-B1; 236 Q-B1; 237 Q-B1; 238 Q-B1; 239 Q-B1; 240 Q-B1; 241 Q-B1; 242 Q-B1; 243 Q-B1; 244 Q-B1; 245 Q-B1; 246 Q-B1; 247 Q-B1; 248 Q-B1; 249 Q-B1; 250 Q-B1; 251 Q-B1; 252 Q-B1; 253 Q-B1; 254 Q-B1; 255 Q-B1; 256 Q-B1; 257 Q-B1; 258 Q-B1; 259 Q-B1; 260 Q-B1; 261 Q-B1; 262 Q-B1; 263 Q-B1; 264 Q-B1; 265 Q-B1; 266 Q-B1; 267 Q-B1; 268 Q-B1; 269 Q-B1; 270 Q-B1; 271 Q-B1; 272 Q-B1; 273 Q-B1; 274 Q-B1; 275 Q-B1; 276 Q-B1; 277 Q-B1; 278 Q-B1; 279 Q-B1; 280 Q-B1; 281 Q-B1; 282 Q-B1; 283 Q-B1; 284 Q-B1; 285 Q-B1; 286 Q-B1; 287 Q-B1; 288 Q-B1; 289 Q-B1; 290 Q-B1; 291 Q-B1; 292 Q-B1; 293 Q-B1; 294 Q-B1; 295 Q-B1; 296 Q-B1; 297 Q-B1; 298 Q-B1; 299 Q-B1; 300 Q-B1; 301 Q-B1; 302 Q-B1; 303 Q-B1; 304 Q-B1; 305 Q-B1; 306 Q-B1; 307 Q-B1; 308 Q-B1; 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709 Q-B1; 710 Q-B1; 711 Q-B1; 712 Q-B1; 713 Q-B1; 714 Q-B1; 715 Q-B1; 716 Q-B1; 717 Q-B1; 718 Q-B1; 719 Q-B1; 720 Q-B1; 721 Q-B1; 722 Q-B1; 723 Q-B1; 724 Q-B1; 725 Q-B1; 726 Q-B1; 727 Q-B1; 728 Q-B1; 729 Q-B1; 730 Q-B1; 731 Q-B1; 732 Q-B1; 733 Q-B1; 734 Q-B1; 735 Q-B1; 736 Q-B1; 737 Q-B1; 738 Q-B1; 739 Q-B1; 740 Q-B1; 741 Q-B1; 742 Q-B1; 743 Q-B1; 744 Q-B1; 745 Q-B1; 746 Q-B1; 747 Q-B1; 748 Q-B1; 749 Q-B1; 750 Q-B1; 751 Q-B1; 752 Q-B1; 753 Q-B1; 754 Q-B1; 755 Q-B1; 756 Q-B1; 757 Q-B1; 758 Q-B1; 759 Q-B1; 760 Q-B1; 761 Q-B1; 762 Q-B1; 763 Q-B1; 764 Q-B1; 765 Q-B1; 766 Q-B1; 767 Q-B1; 768 Q-B1; 769 Q-B1; 770 Q-B1; 771 Q-B1; 772 Q-B1; 773 Q-B1; 774 Q-B1; 775 Q-B1; 776 Q-B1; 777 Q-B1; 778 Q-B1; 779 Q-B1; 780 Q-B1; 781 Q-B1; 782 Q-B1; 783 Q-B1; 784 Q-B1; 785 Q-B1; 786 Q-B1; 787 Q-B1; 788 Q-B1; 789 Q-B1; 790 Q-B1; 791 Q-B1; 792 Q-B1; 793 Q-B1; 794 Q-B1; 795 Q-B1; 796 Q-B1; 797 Q-B1; 798 Q-B1; 799 Q-B1; 800 Q-B1; 801 Q-B1; 802 Q-B1; 803 Q-B1; 804 Q-B1; 805 Q-B1; 806 Q-B1; 807 Q-B1; 808 Q-B1; 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OFFICIAL NOTICE

Proposal to change a
Ship's name.

I, William Charles Gomersall of 825 Alexandra House, Hongkong hereby give notice that in consequence of change of ownership of the vessel, I have applied to the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation under Section 47 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, in respect of the British ship "Snowdon Hill" of HONG KONG REGISTRY Official Number 168360 Gross tonnage 7939.17 tons Register tonnage 4927.01 tons, heretofore owned by Keystone Shipping Company, Limited, of No. 4 Tung Man Street, 2nd floor, Hong Kong, for permission to change her name to "CANADIAN FIR" and to have her registered in the new name at the Port of HONG KONG as owned by Canadian Fir Steamship Company Limited.

Any objection to the proposed change of name must be sent to the REGISTRAR OF SHIPPING at HONG KONG within SEVEN days from the appearance of this advertisement.

Dated at HONG KONG the 11th day of December, 1956.

Canadian Fir Steamship Company Limited.

William Charles Gomersall
Director

NOTICE
s.s. "ALA"

Offers are invited for the purchase of the Norwegian Steamer "ALA" as she lies in Kowloon Bay in a damaged condition as the result of a fire on board.

Offers should be submitted forthwith to Owners' Agents:

Messrs. Waller & Co., Ltd.,
116, Hong Kong & Shanghai
Bank Building,
Hong Kong.

or to
Messrs. Gilman & Co., Ltd.,
Alexandra House,
Hong Kong.

Lloyd's Agents,
As Agents for the
Salvage Association, London,
from either of whom permis-
sion to inspect the vessel may
be obtained.

WALLER & CO., LTD.
116, HONG KONG & SHANGHAI
BANK BUILDING, HONG KONG.

DECISIVE YEAR FOR FUTURE OF TITOISM

Belgrade, Dec. 11.

A decisive year for the future of Titoism faces the Yugoslav Communist Party between now and its Congress next autumn, in the opinion of foreign observers here.

Coming months should show whether the idea of Titoism, which arose after Yugoslavia's break with the Cominform, will prove to have been merely a temporary heresy in the creed of communism, or whether it will exercise a dominant influence in encouraging European Communist parties to throw off Moscow's control.

Events in Poland and, even more so, the Hungarian uprising have brought the role of Titoism into the open. They have also sown the seeds of what observers here have thought might possibly develop into as big a quarrel between Belgrade and Moscow as the Cominform dispute of 1948.

Most Agree

Titoism probably means different things to people in different countries, even inside eastern Europe. Politically, most agree that it implies a nationally independent form of communism, with every country choosing its own road to socialism—a formula to which even the Russians subscribed on paper when they signed the Moscow Declaration with President Tito this summer.

In Yugoslav eyes, it also has an economic side. It stands for decentralisation in a country's economy instead of rigid control from the centre, and considers that factories should be run by workers' councils elected, nominally at least, by the workers themselves.

Yugoslavs thus see a special significance in the introduction of the system of workers' councils in other east European countries. Some Poles have even claimed that the system of workers' councils which they are setting up goes further than the Titoist system. They argue that the Polish councils are elected "from below", while the Yugoslav ones were imposed "from above."

Titoism started to develop after Yugoslavia's expulsion from the Cominform, but the rest of eastern Europe was isolated from Yugoslavia and ideas could not penetrate. A vital date was the death of Stalin in February 1953, after which the Soviet Union and other eastern European states gradually brought their relations with Yugoslavia back to normal.

Hopes High

Until this summer, hopes were high here that eastern Europe and the Soviet Union itself, though perhaps not following Yugoslavia, would profit from Yugoslavia's experience and develop along parallel roads towards a more flexible and liberalised form of communism.

Then came Poznan riots. And, as President Tito said in a speech in November, the Soviet leadership became "cold" towards Yugoslavia and started to argue that Titoism was responsible for the disorders in Poland.

In September President Tito exchanged visits with the First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party—Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, here and in the Crimea. But it seems that after their secret talks, disagreement still smouldered, though beneath the surface.

There followed the Hungarian uprising in October and the attitude of the Soviet Union towards Yugoslavia hardened still more. Days passed and the Yugoslav party leadership did not take up a comprehensive stand on Hungary. Instead, it announced its decision that the next Communist Party congress, which under the party statute should have been held now, would be postponed until next autumn. Questions began to be asked as to whether the Yugoslavs themselves were doubting the practical effects of Titoism, and were undecided whether to change the party line.

Outspoken

But on November 11, President Tito, in a speech to party activists, made it clear that the Yugoslav Communist party was convinced that its ideas were right and would push ahead with them. He said from admitting Yugoslav responsibility for the disorders in Poland and Hungary. President Tito's statement, in substance, was: "We cannot

the Soviet leadership of being basically responsible for the turmoil in eastern Europe. If the Russians had shown the same confidence in Hungary as they had in Yugoslavia, and had allowed her to develop along her own road towards socialism, he said, the Hungarian uprising would have been avoided.

At the same time, he issued a warning against the danger of renascent Stalinism.

In President Tito's view, on? Stalinist section of the Soviet leadership had imposed its views on the rest. But he expressed the hope that by the process of natural evolution, the non-Stalinists would come to the fore in time.

Nevertheless, he criticised the whole Soviet leadership for, as he said, mistakenly conducting a campaign against the personality cult. He maintained that the Soviet leaders have failed to wage a campaign against the roots of the evil, the Stalinist system of rigid control, which still persists. Poland, he said, had freed herself from just that.

Reliable Ally

Judging from President Tito's words, Yugoslavia regards Poland as her most reliable ally in the struggle now developing between Titoism and Stalinism. Other potential allies are Hungary—assuming that quiet is restored under a national Communist government—and the Italian Communist party, regarded here as the most flexible among the Communist parties of eastern Europe.—China Mail Special.

JAPANESE PRODUCE NEW TANK

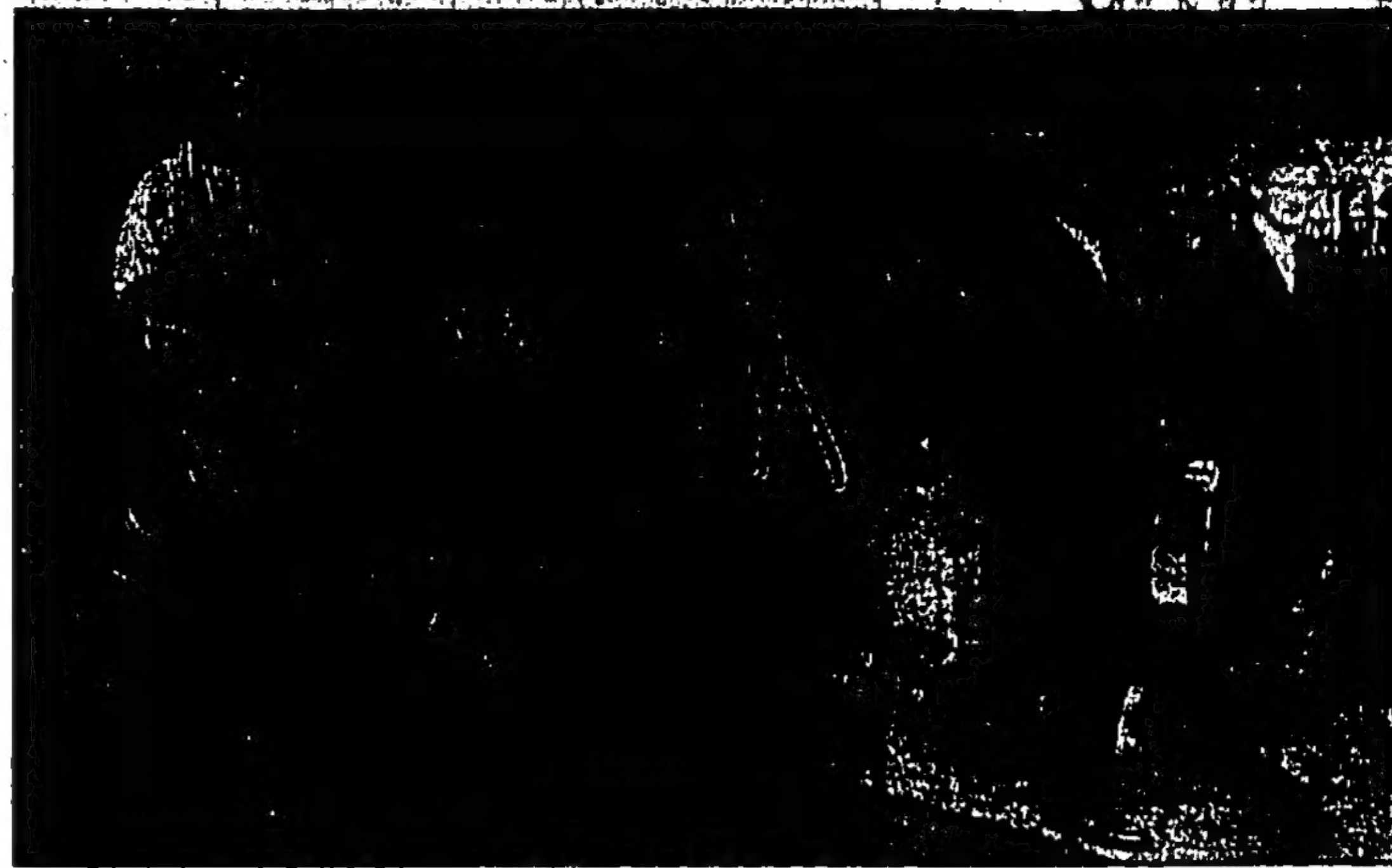
Tokyo, Dec. 11.

A Japanese armament manufacturer today claimed a prototype of a tank soon to be produced in Japan was the "most up to date in the world."

A spokesman for the Mitsubishi Nippon heavy industry said the new tank incorporated special features making it proof against radioactivity in future atomic wars and was able to operate at night by means of infra-red rays.

The spokesman said the tank was modelled after the American M4 medium tank but was "much superior." He said the 38-ton tank carried a 90 millimetre cannon and was capable of a speed of 45 kilometres an hour. The crew's compartment was especially sealed against radioactive dust.—Reuters.

St Andrew's Day Wall Game



St Andrew's Day at Eton College was marked by the customary Wall Game played between Collegers and Oppidans. Picture shows the Collegers arriving for the game.—Central Press Photo.

Resistance Leaders Rehabilitated

Paris, Dec. 11.

Three Polish resistance leaders who were imprisoned after World War Two on charges of collaborating with Germany, were rehabilitated today by the Warsaw regional court, the Polish PAP news agency reported.

The resisters were Casimir Mezarski, Eustache Krik and Alfred Kurczewski, chiefs of the wartime "State Security Corps" and "Underground Combat Committee."

The court said the defendants, accused of helping German troops to wipe out left-wing resisters, were convicted on the basis of "extorted confessions" alone.

RAP said the rehabilitation of the three leaders would help to repair the injustice done to the "honour of the Polish resistance."—France-Press.

Over Twelve Rebels Killed

Algiers, Dec. 11.

More than a dozen Algerian rebels were killed and seven others were captured today in clashes with French troops in the Algiers and Constantine departments.

Troops captured rebel shotguns, machineguns, pistols, Army rifles and automatic pistols.

Meantime, the Deputy Mayor of Orleanville was wounded seriously by an unidentified terrorist, who fired three shots at him and then fled.—France-Press.

RECORD BULL-FIGHTING SEASON IN SPAIN

Madrid, Dec. 11.

The return to the bull fighting ring of Luis Miguel Dominguin, Spain's famous and handsome 30-year-old matador, was the sensation of the 1956 bull-fight season in Spain.

Luis Miguel, as he is always known in Spain, was regarded as the outstanding personality of Spanish bull-fighting after the death of Manolete. He retired in 1952, with savings estimated at 30,000,000 pesetas (£300,000). He is a great friend of Hemingway and he was much feted by cinema personalities, including Ava Gardner, when he visited Hollywood in 1954.

"Marriage and bull-fighting do not mix," Luis Miguel declared just before he was married to the pretty Italian film star, Lucia Bose, in 1955, and settled down to farm and breed cattle on his estate "Villa Paz", 65 miles from Madrid.

LURE TOO STRONG

But the lure of the ring has been too strong and this autumn Luis Miguel appeared again, making his "comeback" in the ring at Oran, North Africa.

Luis Miguel comes back to bull-fighting at a period when there is still big money to be earned. In other times, he received as much as 12,000 dollars (over £4,000) for one fight in Latin America.

There are more bull fights than ever in Spain today, in spite of the firm hold of football on the Spanish public. Football stadiums holding up to 100,000 people are filled Sunday after Sunday. In addition, there are rival attractions in the cinema and a new feature, television. Yet the number of bull fights this year was nearly 200 more than the total for 1953.

In 1956, there have been 751 bullfights, including corridas and novilladas, in Spain, France and Portugal. This figure compares with 693 in 1955, 595 in 1954 and 553 in 1953.

This increase is attributed largely to foreign enthusiasm, or at least curiosity, regarding the bull-fight. Of the some

2,000,000 tourists now visiting Spain each year, a substantial proportion want to see a bull-fight.

Some hurry away horrified after the first bull is decapitated. Others become "aficionados" (fans) for life. But each season tourists buy hundreds of thousands of bull-fight tickets, and now entrepreneurs organise their programmes for the season thinking of the foreign visitors.

Foreigners also appeared in the ring this season in no uncertain manner. One of the amazing features of the 1956 season has been that one or the other of three brothers from Venezuela—Cesar, Curro and Rafael Giron—appeared in one out of five bull-fights held during the season. Between them, the three brothers fought 157 fights and killed 314 bulls between April and October.

Cesar Giron was top of the list of matadors, with 68 fights to his credit. Curro Giron fought 45 novilladas and two corridas. Rafael Giron fought 39 novilladas and three corridas. Curro and Rafael became full-fledged fighters in a "family fight" with Cesar, already a matador, acting as "padrino" (god-father) to conduct the rank of matador (full-fledged fighter) on his two brothers. It was one of the most moving corridas of the year.

IMPECCABLE 'PASSES'

Two North Americans appeared briefly in the ring. Porter Luck, of Boston, and Harry Whitney, of Rancho de Santa Fe, California, but without much success.

A Frenchman, Pierre Schull, had favourable comments on his five fights.

A 23-year-old German named Ernst Sommerkopf, of Munich, came rare prize from bull-fight critics when he jumped into the ring unexpectedly during a corrida at Barcelona in September and carried out six impeccable "passes" with the bull before he was removed by the police.

The "wonder boy" of the Spanish bull-ring, 21-year-old Antonio Borrero, El Chamaco, was top of the list of novilleros with 61 fights. He fought one corrida at the end of the season in order to make his rank as matador. Chamaco continues to be the idol of the Barcelona crowds, but Madrid fans, annoyed because he has never yet fought in the capital, reserve judgment accordingly.

Chamaco received his red cloth (muleta), at the ceremony of being named matador, from another famous fighter, who was also a "wonder boy" in his day, El Lirio.

31 CORRIDAS

Lirio retired at the age of 22 in 1952, reputedly with some 20,000,000 pesetas (£200,000) in his bank. Last year he made a "comeback" and this year has fought 31 corridas.

The 1956 season was marked by allegations that, in spite of government regulations on this subject, use of saving off the tips of the bull's horns were again frequent. One bull breeder told the press that he had had to have a police guard placed over six of his bulls destined for fights to prevent their horns from being cut back.

ALLEGATIONS

Allegations of beating and doping of bulls before fights and of the refusal of managers to accept heavy and aggressive bulls for their matadors were also heard during the season.

Whatever the truth or otherwise of these allegations, a change in bull-fight customs is clearly indicated by the fact that the official minimum weight for fighting bulls was 1,254 lbs. in 1953 and now, 1,325 lbs. (600 kg.).—China Mail Special.

TRACK-LAYING

Track-laying began yesterday at Nanjing on the Nanjing-Foochow railway. The 178-kilometre long railway is the second line to be built in Fukien Province, the New China News Agency reported.

It will link with the newly completed Ningbo-Amy railway by a branch line. The new line will be the shortest route from Shanghai to the coast. It will also be the shortest route from Shanghai to the coast. It will also be the shortest route from Shanghai to the coast.

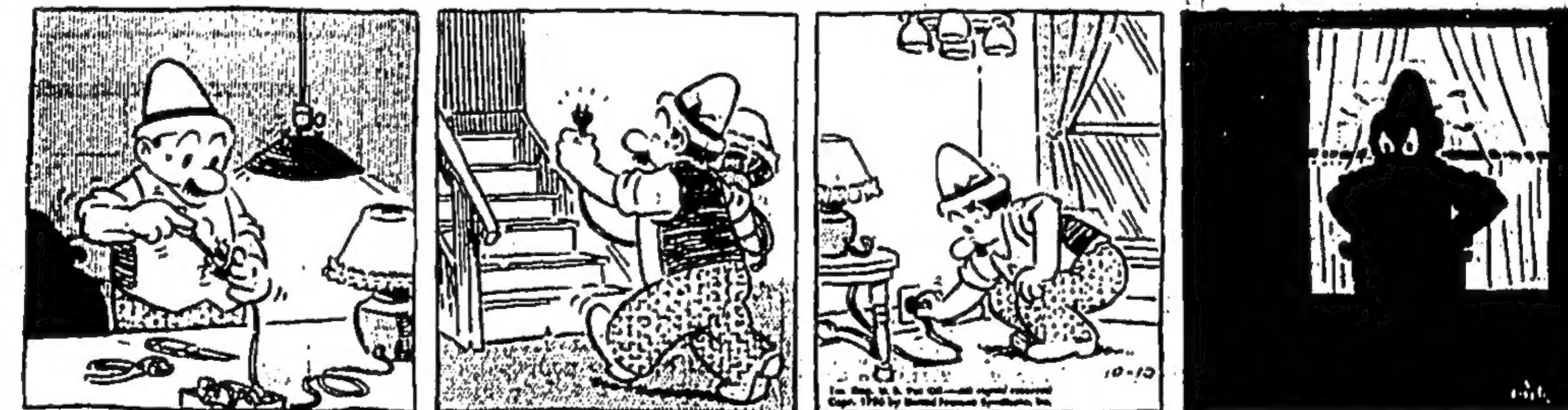
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By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



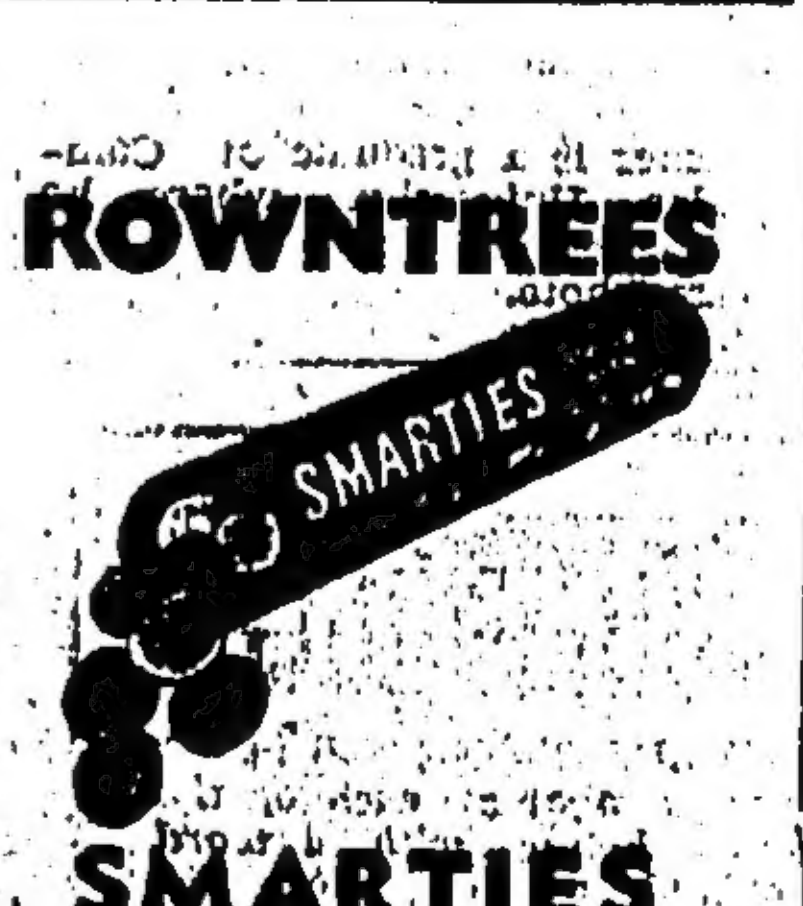
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1956.

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Tobias In Port

TOBIAS is a fragile-looking, white-haired man, who looks as though he would rather do anything than draw attention to himself. He is the kind of man towards whom women of all ages at once feel motherly, whom men respect as if they were his sons. The kind about whom quite small children feel protective.

The gentlest of little men, Tobias is a small, thin, old man. He does no great harm, he betrays a swashbuckling, dandy air, tries to take the town by storm.

KINDLY GENTLE
TOBIAS'S drinking habit usually accented. He calls it an aim for a glass of some harmless, low gravity brew, and this he does with for a long time, spinning out the doubtful pleasure as if he expected it would be a long time before he tasted another glass of the same-as-before.

People take pity on him, naturally. They tell him, "Tobias, you should be kinder, gentler, and often they give him a handkerchief, then his ordinary little. It was the other evening, well-meaning, anonymous bar, acquaintances filled Tobias up with who they called port wine, and he had not the strength of will to say no to his benefactors.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO
HE recoiled out of the inn at last and roared into the West End with colour flying to his face. The scolding omnibus that flew along the street, Tobias staggered about the busy roadway as though the horses had been lured and he, a lone, unarmed defender of something. A policeman rescued him, and brought him safely to dock at Bow Street next morning, and there Tobias, for the eleventh time this year pleaded guilty to

3 Die In Fires

Three people were killed to death while seven others, including five children, suffered serious burns yesterday in two separate fires in Cebu Province, Central Philippines.

Five children were trapped in a house by a fire but heroic rescue work by neighbours saved them.

The cause of the fires was not ascertained.—France-Press

TEENAGERS' TRIAL CONTINUES

Evidence of the arrival of the Police and the finding of various articles belonging to the complainant at the scene of an alleged snatching in Hennessy Road was given this morning in the trial of two teenagers on charges of robbery with aggravation and larceny from the person before Judge J. Reynolds at the Victoria District Court.

The accused, Ng Tat-wing, 19, and Wu Hon-lit, 18, were charged with others not in custody, to have robbed two couples in a parked car on the beach at Deep Water Bay on November 5 and both were alleged to have snatched handbags from two women.

The first accused is additionally charged with another count of robbery with aggravation in connection with one of the snatching cases.

They are respectively represented by Mr. Patrick Yu, instructed by Peter Mo & Co., and by Mr. H. W. S. Winter, instructed by Mr. G. S. S. Stevenson, of Stewart & Co.

Mr. D. E. Greenfield, Crown Counsel, assisted by Sub-Insp. Wang Shu-chung, is in charge of the prosecution's case.

Police Constable Tang Ng-wai in evidence said that he and a fellow constable, Tsang Kwok-chung, were on patrol duty on the early morning of November 9. They were walking along Hennessy Road when they heard a commotion and on reaching a crowd in front of house No. 249, the second accused, who was in the custody of a man, was handed over to them.

As a result of what he was told he went up the stairs and found the first accused who was "evading" whether to go up or down the stairs. He brought him down to the pavement and the complainant pointed him out as "these are the men who snatched."

Cross-examined, witness disagreed that he did not arrest the first accused.

FOUND ARTICLES
Constable Leung Yip testified that at about 1.20 a.m. on November 9 he and another constable were passing by Hennessy Road when he was

Prison For 3 Robbers

Three men, Szeto Wah-chung (22), Lai Hun (24), and Chung Yung (28), all unemployed, were sent to prison for two years at Kowloon Court this morning when they pleaded guilty before Mr. T. L. Yang to charges of larceny and membership of an illegal society.

The first defendant was further ordered to pay \$500 or serve two months in gaol for a breach of bond.

The prosecution alleged that the three defendants boarded a sampans moored to the wharf at Shek Lung, Kowloon. The owner of the sampans awoke and the three men jumped on him and snatched his wrist watch, and then escaped.

The sampans owner then found that the thieves had stolen his clothes. The matter was reported to the police.

Later police detectives, acting on information, arrested the three defendants in Wanchai. At the time of his arrest Chung Yung was wearing the stolen clothes and admitted that he had pawned the wrist watch for \$60.

All three defendants admitted to being members of a triad society.

They were sentenced to 18 months for larceny and to six months for being members of the illegal society.

Radio Hongkong

11.30 p.m. Women Only. A weekly magazine introduced by Miss Mary Beatty. Bulletin: Diana Ma talks about the art of make-up. Women of the Week: Interviewed by Hilary Green: 6. Time Signal Programme Summary: 6.02. Lucky Dip: Listeners' Requests presented by Margherita: 6.59. Weather Report: 7. Time Signal. The News: 7.00. Commentary: 7.10. Letter from America by Patricia Cooke: 7.15. Health and his Music (BBC): 8.30. Here come the Boys: 8. Time Signal. The News and News from Britain: 8.15. Wednesday Theatre: "An Ideal Husband" (BBC): A Comedy by Oscar Wilde. Adapted for broadcasting by Gilbert Travers Thomas: 10.45. Music of the Twentieth Century: Kammermusik No. 1 Op. 24 No. 1 (Hindemith): 10.55. Weather Report: 11. Time Signal. Radio News: 11.15. Goodnight Music: 11.30. Close Down.

REDIFFUSION

2 p.m. Variety Calls the Tune. Wednesday Concert (Featuring the Works of Beethoven, Brahms, Liszt, and others). 4.30. Symphony in C Major: 4.30. Romances of the World: Marie Louise: 4.15. Tea for Two: 4.30. Strictly Instrumental: 5. Children's Corner. Presented by Patricia Cooke: 5.20. Wednesday Requests: Presented by Hilary Green: 5.30. Birthday Ballad: 5.30. Another T-UP Show: 5.45. The House of Peter McGovern: 7. Time Signal and the News: 7.00. Weather Report and Announcements: 7.15. Artie Shaw and his Orchestra: 7.20. Coke Time: 7.45. Concert: Voices of Walter Schumann: 8.15. Interlude for Music: 8.30. Diamond Music Show: 9. Time Signal and the News: 9.15. Fol O' Gold: 9.45. The Man of Property—A Novel by John Galsworthy, adapted for broadcasting by Hilary Green: 10.15. Music Hall Varieties: 10.45. One Night Stand: 11.00. Jerry Lewis and his Orchestra: 11.15. Goodnight Music: 11.30. Close Down.

Kuwait Oil Centre Sabotage

London, Dec. 12. Sixteen bombs exploded in the oil centre of Kuwait early this morning, setting one oil well on fire and damaging the oil pipelines, the London Times reported from Kuwait.

It was the first serious outbreak of attacks against the Anglo-American installations in Kuwait since the beginning of the Suez crisis—United Press.



Fire Destroys Two Storeys In Central District

A tinderwood three-storey tenement block, No. 38 Pottinger Street, flared up like a country haystack this morning in the densely crowded central district.

The fire was under control shortly before noon after burning two hours. In that time all but the ground floor had been gutted and the roof had caved in. No one was thought to be trapped or injured.

The first of seven fire appliances which were engaged reached the scene within one minute of the fire call at 10.25 a.m. By that time red flames shot from the roof of the building and a column of smoke rose more than a hundred feet into the air. The roof caved in as the first jet of water gathered force and fell towards the fire.

Fire appliances jammed the junction of Wellington Street and Lyndhurst Street from which Pottinger Street leads up in the form of a broad flight of steps. They also operated from Hollywood Road below the Central Police Station—normally a congested one-way traffic area.

Firemen first on the scene attacked the blazing building from balconies of houses across Pottinger Street and from neighbouring roof tops to contain the fire inside No. 38.

BARRICADED OFF
Police with wooden barricades prevented a crowd from approaching the fire area. The lower part of Pottinger Street was packed solid with spectators of the spectacular blaze.

At times a whole cloud of brown smoke which poured from the burning building burst into flame and belched out across Pottinger Street with the force of an explosion. Charred debris (thrown up by the flames) poured down on the surrounding area as far away as Queen's Road.

Officers who led the fire fighting were Chief Officer Mr. W. J. Gorman, and Deputy Chief Officer Mr. V. C. Seymour.

EARLY AM BLAZE
Residents in a block of flats in Percival Street were given a scare when shortly after 4 o'clock this morning they became aware of a fire blazing away outside their windows.

A number of wooden cinema picture frames left in a lane behind the Lee Theatre caught fire and in a few moments became a roaring inferno lighting up the immediate neighbourhood in bold relief against a background of inky blackness.

Long tongues of flame shot high up to windows in the upper storeys scorching the walls and sending sparks over a wide area.

Employees of the Lee Theatre and residents fought the fire with poles and water. The blaze was finally extinguished by the Fire Brigade with powerful jets of water from a hose. A Police emergency van stood by to keep the crowd, which had gathered despite the early hours of the morning, under control.

APPLICATION MADE TO COURT TO CROSS-EXAMINE HON E.B. DAVID

An application for the attendance in Court of HE the OAG, Mr E. B. David, to be cross-examined on a number of points in Mr David's affidavit was made by Mr W. S. Edwards at the hearing of a preliminary point of law on the question of a privileged document raised by the defence before Mr Justice Scholes in the Supreme Court this morning.

His Lordship said he would give his ruling on the application at the end of the case for the defendant.

Mr Edwards, a former assessor of the Inland Revenue Department, who is appearing in person as the plaintiff in an action for damages against Mr K. M. Alano, an Assessor of the Inland Revenue Department. Mr Alano is represented by Mr J. C. McRobert, Crown Counsel.

The preliminary point of law, raised by the defendant in paragraph 13 of his statement of claim, was ordered to be set down for trial by Mr Justice Reynolds in Chamber on June 4, 1956. An appeal by Mr Edwards against Mr Justice Reynolds' order was dismissed by the Full Court on September 27.

His Lordship informed Mr McRobert this morning that as the defence raised the point in their statement of defence that he should begin.

Mr Edwards then made an application for the attendance of Mr David (at the material time the Colonial Secretary). He said that an affidavit had been filed by Mr David and he wished at the appropriate time to cross-examine him. In order to save judicial time he said he thought it advisable to notify the Court of this before the proceedings commenced. He had already notified the Registrar of the Defence and the Registrar of the Court who had advised that he should apply to his Lordship for an order.

A SUGGESTION
Mr McRobert said that he was going to make a suggestion, the consideration of the application was deferred until the defendant had presented his case because the majority of the law relating to the application was also very intimately tied in with the question of personal attendance.

Mr Edwards referred the Court to Order 11, Rule 22 of the Code of Civil Procedure in support of his application and submitted that it was essential to his case that he be given the opportunity to cross-examine Mr David over a number of important things in his affidavit. It was most important to him that this be done, he added.

Asked if he had any authority to support his application that a person of the status of a Minister of State should be called to be cross-examined, Mr Edwards said he had no authority for that, and he had no case to argue that Mr David should be called to the witness stand. Privilege was only claimed in connection with a document, and not in connection with the appearance of a Government official for cross-examination. He doubted very much that privilege extended that far.

Asked what his grounds were that it was essential to his case that he should examine Mr David, Mr Edwards said that it was a main document on which the Defence was relying. There were several things in it which in his opinion were false statements.

Mr Edwards continued: "Furthermore I don't think that the deponent is vested with sufficient authority to be the criterion of what may be injurious to public interest. I think personally that he is unreliable and incompetent."

COUNSEL PROTESTS
Mr McRobert protested that the Court was being used by the plaintiff in this manner. They were there to deal with a point of law and not to give the plaintiff an opportunity to abuse the Court in this manner, he said.

Mr Edwards said that he did not wish to say anything further if the Court would grant his request. The test was in the cross-examination. He did not wish to forego anything. The Court had asked him for an explanation. He could go on and on but he did not wish to do so at the present stage. He had made a request which was made in accordance with the laws of Hong Kong. Privilege has been claimed only in respect of a certain document, namely, an adverse report made concerning me on June 4, 1953," Mr Edwards said.

Mr McRobert then opened the case for the defence. Hearing is continuing.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at 9.30 p.m. Hong Kong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the 9.30 p.m. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles (which may be posted one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mail can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
By Air: Hawaii, U.S.A. & Canada, 8 p.m.
By Surface: Macao, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14
By Air: Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, 7 a.m.
Japan, 8 a.m.
Thailand, Pakistan, Lebanon, Gambia, France & Great Britain, 9 a.m.
Philippines, 10 a.m.
Palestine, Malaya, East Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.
Korea, 8 p.m.
Thailand, Ceylon, Burma, & India, 9 p.m.
U.S.A., 8 p.m.

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